

## SPECIAL MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-MARCH 28, 2005

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting to order at the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building at 6:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding, and Schaefer

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

No comments

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Distribution of FY 2005/2006 Proposed Budget

Town Manager, Martin H. Berliner, and Director of Finance, Jeffrey H. Smith, presented the Council with the 2005/06-budget book.

Mr. Berliner explained the budget message. At present there is a 5.41% increase, which equates to a 1.67 increase in the mill rate.

Council member requested a few scenarios of the taxes of homes and with the increment in the assessment, how much would the actual taxes go up per house?

The revenue budget as presented reflects the Governor's proposed budget, but does not mention the conveyance tax for towns. The amount now budgeted is using the percentage at present. This percentage is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2005. Hopefully legislators will continue this amount, but if not the budget will lose approximately \$144,000.

With revaluation the grand list has increased by 47 percent this year. Because Mansfield is the home of the University of Connecticut the town is greatly dependent upon state grants to fund the operating budgets.

2. Issues and Options (pp 7-18)

Pg. 7 Fund Balance

Pg 8 Contributions to Area Agencies

Council member asked how the Social Services committees rate the agencies in their requests.

Question on the vets, how many vets use the services and what is the use?

Pg.9 Staffing Changes

The Town Manager included additional Library staffing so that Thursday evening hours could be reopened.

Also, part-time police officers, seasonal public works, maintenance personnel, and with the creation of the town's emergency services operations and management improvement project, a fire chief.

Pg. 10 Annual report

Although this is a popular item, the staff believes this report could be placed on the town's website and then produce a limited number of copies to be given out in the Town Hall.

Pg. 11-13

Discussion of Debt service fund, debt service subsidy, and new debt. The media centers of all the elementary schools need to be updated, consequently there will be a need for a building committee.

The discussion of setting up committees of building media centers will be a future agenda item.

At 7:30 p.m. the Council adjourned from the Special Meeting, discussing budget, and convened the regular meeting of the Council.

At 9:30 p.m. the Special meeting continued.

### 3. General Government (59-61)

Pg. 59 is the General Government overview.

Pg.60-61 Legislative 11100

Town Council

Mayor announced that on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> there would be a "Festival on the Green"

Town Manager would like to have a Mansfield Weekend, and have fireworks and music at the Hollow.

62-63 Municipal Management

64-65 Human Resources

Under the direction of the Assistant Town Manager, departments recruit and train employees.

66-67 Town Attorney

68-69 Probate Court

70-71 Registrars

72-73 Town Clerk

74-75 General elections

77 General Government

78-79 Finance Administration

80-81 Accounting and Disbursements

82-83 Revenue Collection

This June the Revenue Collector will be retiring.

84-85 Property Assessment

86-87 Central Copying

88-89 Central Supplies

90-91 Information Technology

#### 4. Operating Transfers out

Pg. 167 Other Financing Uses

This program represents the General Fund contribution to other Town funds and other operating Special Revenue Funds

Question on the Summer Challenge-how many kids, how long has program been presented?

#### 5. Capital Projects (pp. 169-185)

Pg. 169-171 Description of the proposed program for FY 2005/06 to 2009/10

Pg. 173 Summary

Pg 174-175 Budget Financing Plan

Pg.176-181 Description of each project and costs.

Pg. 183-185 Proposed 5 year capital improvements program

#### 6. CNR (pp. 187-188)

Pg. 87-188 CNR

This fund was created pursuant to Connecticut State Law to establish a reserve fund for future capital and nonrecurring expenditures. This is primarily the Pequot/Mohegan grant, plus ambulance user fees, interest income and an appropriation of fund balance.

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 p.m.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk